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Friends of Michigan History, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Michigan Historical Museum

Lansing, Michigan

December 14, 2009

Call to Order

President Bus Spaniola called the of the Board of Directors (Board) meeting of the Friends of Michigan History, Inc. (Friends) to order at 10:01 A.M.

Board Members Present: Andy Andersen, Larry Griffin, Keith Harrison, John Irwin, Rose Moye, Richard Johnson, Ralph Sims, Bus Spaniola, Louise Stilwill, Paul Tarr, Morris Thomas, Tom Truscott, and Geneva Wiskemann.

Board Members Absent: Adriana Greci Green, Charles Seeley, and Bill Wellman.

Board Members Excused: Adriana Greci Green, Charles Seeley, and Bill Wellman.

Michigan Historical Museum (Museum) Staff Present: Martha Bloomfield and Phil Kwiatkowski.

Guests: Sandra Clark and Mark Harvey.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as transmitted; motion passed.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve as transmitted the minutes from the November Board meeting; motion passed.

President's Report

President Spaniola reported that 2010 is uncertain in regards to what will happen with the Friends. Considerable discussion took place regarding the problem resulting from the Governor's Executive Order and the elimination of the Michigan Department of History, Arts, and Libraries.

In light of the recent letters that have been sent out to Michigan History magazine subscribers who are Friends members regarding membership/magazine renewal with no mention of the Friends, a motion was made and seconded that (1) the Friends should contact whoever is responsible (Foundation or the Michigan Historical Society) in order to assure that there is no encroachment upon the Friends membership list and that the Friends membership list remains secure and intact and (2) that a letter be prepared by the Friends to the Michigan Historical Commission requesting that it gather all the parties involved with Michigan History (Friends, Foundation, Docents, Michigan Historical Society, Historical Center and Commission) to discuss how we might all work and survive together while still performing our necessary roles, in light of the Governor's Executive Order; motion passed.

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www.michigan.gov/friendsofmichiganhistory

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Treasurer Report

BALANCE	11-01-09	7,345.93
Cashed Checks		
1464 Michigan Oral History	\$ 500.00	
1470 History Magazine	67.80	
1471 Kay Ryal	150.00	
1475 O'Dell Snacks	129.00	
1476 Mike Manor	150.00	
1477 Ron Burk	150.00	
1479 Robert Love	200.00	
1480 On the Spot Engineering	304.43	
1481 Larry Griffin	101.00	
1482 Fosenight Group	<u>202.80</u>	
	2,312.30	-2,312.30
BALANCE	11-30-09	5,033.63
Uncashed Checks		
1473 James Booth	27.19	
1474 Steveanna Roose	150.00	
1478 Don Simons	<u>100.00</u>	
	277.14	-277.19
Available Funds		4,756.44
Benevolent Fund	\$ 50.00	

A motion was made and seconded to approve, as transmitted, the Treasurer's report for the period November 1 – November 30, 2009; motion passed.

Presentation of Bills

No bills that were not otherwise previously approved were presented.

Museum Report

Sandra Clark reported that the state is close to a decision with Michigan State University regarding state historical markers. The Michigan Historical Center is strongly looking into on-line sales. She reported that the state retained copyright on the magazine and other state generated publications. The Michigan Historical Center also is still pursuing permission to charge admission to the museum. If it gets permission to charge admission, it will not be until summer for the general public and September for schools; however, all this remains very tentative.

Martha Bloomfield reported that the next exhibit that they would be working on will be a toy exhibit.

Committee Reports

A. *2009 Veterans Day Program Committee.* (Paul Tarr and Larry Griffin – Co chairs): Paul Tarr reported that all comments regarding the program have been positive. There is a good chance that we will gain additional support from the National Guard next years. It was indicated that there were two Michigan State University students who videotaped the program for a class project and that we should try to get a copy of that videotape.

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- B. *Membership Committee (Keith Harrison – Chair)*. No report.
- C. *Board Nominating Committee (Charles Seeley and Tom Truscott)*. No report.
- D. *Magazine/Military Committee (Paul Tarr – Chair)*. No report.
- E. *Grants Committee (Adriana Greci Green - Chair)*. No report.
- F. *Newsletter Committee (Paul Tarr and Bill Wellman, Co-chairs)*. No report.
- G. *Fund Raising Committee (Bus Spaniola - Chair)*. Paul Tarr talked about the possibility of helping to sponsor the upcoming Ransom E. Olds Association convention to take place July 15-17, 2010. It was suggested by Mark Harvey that an arrangement might be able to be made allowing the Friends to sell historical photographs at the convention.
- H. *Calendar (2011) Committee (Tom Truscott & Rose Moye, Co-chairs)*. No report.
- I. *Bylaws (Paul Tarr – Chair)*. This report and action remained tabled.

Old Business

A. *IRS Group Exemption Application Status*. There has been no notification regarding the Friends' letter application to the Internal Revenue Service for a Group Exemption Number.

New Business

Mark Harvey indicated that the Archives is slated to move back to third floor very soon. Research is currently open the second floor. In addition, there now exists public Wi-Fi on the Museum side of the building and that the library side should have this service sometime next month. The Archive's Mainstreet collection should be made available to the public very soon. The fourth freezer for the Leavenworth project is scheduled to be delivered next week. Finally, Mark indicated that he would like to see the use (display) of archive material more at such events as the Statehood day and other similar programs commemorating Michigan.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Respectively submitted,

Keith G. Harrison

Keith G. Harrison, Secretary
Board of Directors
Friends of Michigan History, Inc.

The next Board meeting will be Monday, January 11, 2010, in Lansing.